

REMARKS

Claims 1-13 and 16-22 were pending in this application. Of these, claims 10-13 and 16-21 stand withdrawn from examination as directed to a non-elected invention. Applicants have amended claims 1, 6, and 22 without any intention of disclaiming equivalents thereof. Applicants have also introduced new claim 23. Upon entry of this paper, claims 1-9, 22, and 23 will be pending and under consideration.

Claims 1 and 6 have been rewritten as independent claims. Claims 1 and 22 have been amended to clarify that the nucleotide sequences of the tagged allele specific extension primers consist of sequences selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NO: 2, SEQ ID NO: 4, SEQ ID NO: 6, SEQ ID NO: 8, SEQ ID NO: 10, and SEQ ID NO: 12. Claim 6 has been amended to clarify that the nucleotide sequences of the tagged allele specific extension primers consist of sequences selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NO: 1 to SEQ ID NO: 12. Support for the amendments can be found in the original application, for example, in paragraphs [0022], [0072], and in original claims 4 and 6. Support for new claim 23 can be found in the original application, for example, in paragraphs [0006], [0015]-[0019], [0022], [0055]-[0058], and [0072]. The amendments introduce no new matter into the application.

The undersigned attorney wishes to thank Examiner Chunduru for her insightful comments during a telephonic interview with the undersigned on August 3, 2010. During the interview, the pending claims, the outstanding Office action, and claim amendments, including those included in this paper, were discussed.

Rejections Under 35 U.S.C. § 103

The Office action rejects claims 1-9 and 22 under 35 U.S.C. § 103 as allegedly unpatentable over WO01/71028 by Reuber *et al.* ("Reuber") in view of U.S. Patent No. 7,608,398 by Pancoska *et al.* ("Pancoska").

Without acquiescing to the rejection and solely to advance prosecution, Applicants have amended claims 1, 6, and 22 to recite that the nucleotide sequences of the tagged allele specific extension primers consist of sequences selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NO: 1 to

SEQ ID NO:12. None of the cited references, individually or in combination, teaches or suggests the inventions of claims 1, 6, and 22.

Accordingly, Applicants request that the rejections be reconsidered and withdrawn.

Unity of Invention

Applicants believe all pending claims to have unity of invention for the reasons previously of record, and respectfully request examination of all claims.

Conclusion

Applicants believe the claims to be in condition for allowance. Applicants invite the Examiner to contact the undersigned regarding any remaining issues.

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Respectfully submitted,

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